

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of the present application, as now amended, is respectfully requested.

New Claims 21-32 have been added. Claims 1-32 are active in the application.

Filed herewith is an INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT and form PTO-1449. Stephen G. Kunin, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy, signed a waiver on July 11, 2003, stating, in part, that patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, need not submit copies of U.S. patents listed on Information Disclosure Statements filed therewith. The references listed on the Information Disclosure Statement are published U.S. patents, and the patent application is filed after June 30, 2003. Therefore, the U.S. patents listed on the Information Disclosure Statement are not now submitted, and is believed to be in compliance with 35 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i).

The above changes to the claims are self-evident from the original disclosure; thus, no new matter has been introduced.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that examination on the merits of Claims 1-32 in the present application is in order, and is respectfully requested.

Date of Deposit: August 7, 2003
Express Mail Number: EL 807927290 US
I hereby certify that this paper and/or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service, under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated Above and is addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Karl D. Kovach

Respectfully submitted,
By Karl D. Kovach
Karl D. Kovach
Reg. No.: 40,278
Stratos Lightwave, Inc.
Attorney for Applicants
7444 West Wilson Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60706
(708) 867-9600